

JACOBS POND CONSERVATION AREA

LOCATION: Jacobs Pond is a 189-acre property surrounding Jacobs Pond. It is located between Jacobs Lane, Prospect Street and Duncan Drive.

PARKING: parking areas are located across from 48 Jacobs Lane and on Duncan Drive as well. Both access points have a canoe /kayak launch for the Pond. Trail heads are located at both launch areas as well as off Prospect St.

TRAILS DESCRIPTION: From the Jacobs Lane parking area, a dirt road leads to the pond and access to trails. Trails are flat but unimproved. The westerly trail runs along the pond for the most part. The Pond and Conservation Area provide habitat for small mammals, fish, turtles, frogs and birds. At the northwestern end of this trail is a loop that leads to an overlook and a spur that leads to the Cliff Prentiss Bridge. Trails lead through a predominantly mixed forest of pines and oaks.

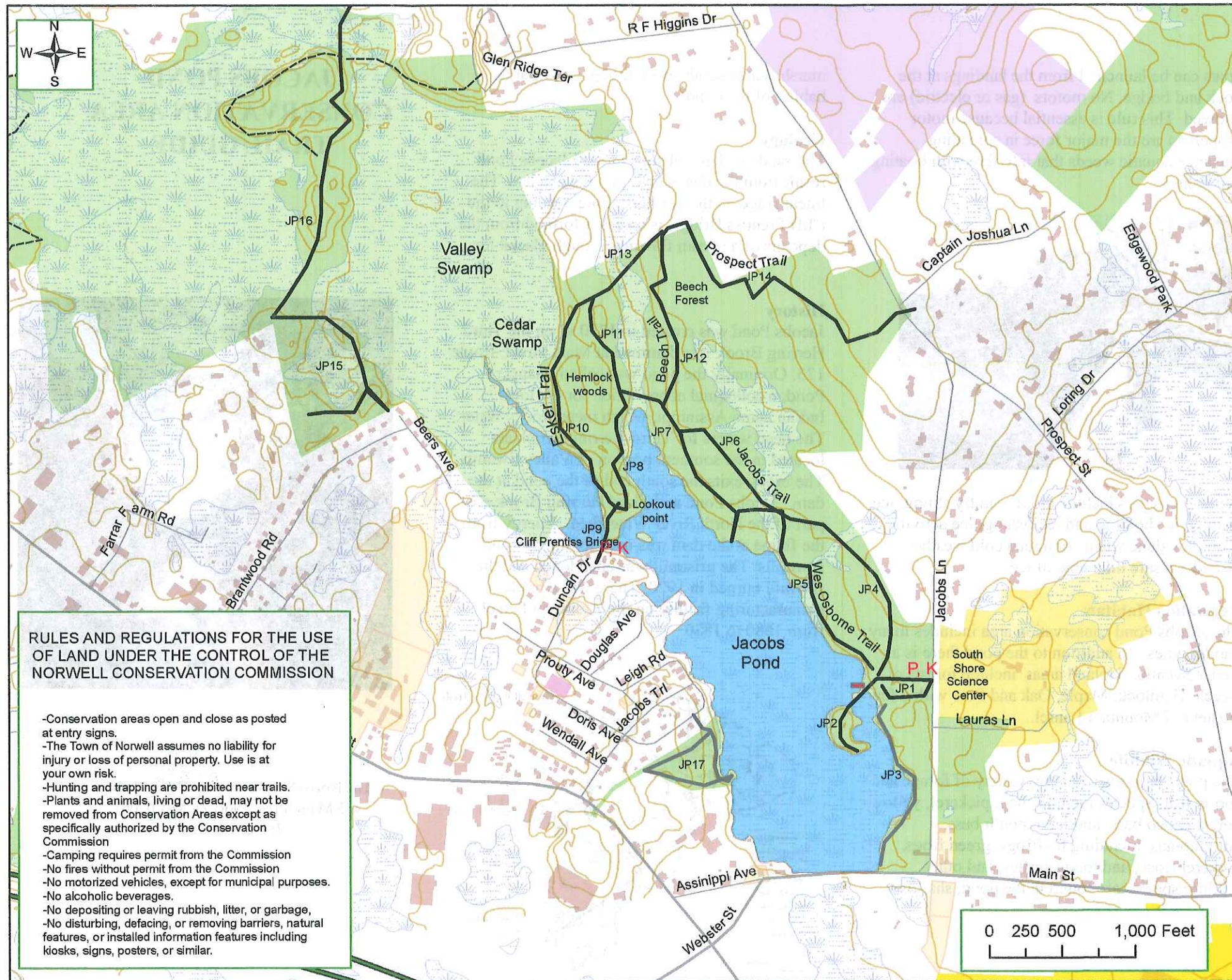
TRAVEL TIME: varies depending on speed and ability. For the average moderate walker plan for 1.5 hours for loop; 1 hour to Prospect Street and return.

AMENITIES: Picnic tables, boat dock at end of Jacobs Lane benches at overlooks; boardwalks along trail through wet areas.

ADA ACCESSIBILITY: The dock and picnic tables near the dock are ADA accessibility.

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE USE OF LAND UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE NORWELL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

- Conservation areas open and close as posted at entry signs.
- The Town of Norwell assumes no liability for injury or loss of personal property. Use is at your own risk.
- Hunting and trapping are prohibited near trails.
- Plants and animals, living or dead, may not be removed from Conservation Areas except as specifically authorized by the Conservation Commission
- Camping requires permit from the Commission
- No fires without permit from the Commission
- No motorized vehicles, except for municipal purposes.
- No alcoholic beverages.
- No depositing or leaving rubbish, litter, or garbage,
- No disturbing, defacing, or removing barriers, natural features, or installed information features including kiosks, signs, posters, or similar.



Legend

- Trails
- WETLANDS
- Hornstra Farm
- Conservation Managed Land
- Elevation contour
- South Shore Science Center
- OtherTown

JACOBS POND CONSERVATION AREA TRAIL GUIDE

Welcome to Jacobs Pond

The Jacobs Pond conservation area includes Jacobs Pond, a man-made pond about 60 acres in size, and approximately 200 acres of surrounding conservation land under the stewardship of the Town of Norwell Conservation Commission. The Jacobs Farm house, barns and hay fields are owned by the town and under the jurisdiction of the Historical and Conservation Commissions.

Activities at Jacobs Pond

Passive recreation is welcome at Jacobs Pond. There is a network of trails for walking, bird watching, and nature study. Trails can be accessed from the Jacobs Lane parking area and from Duncan Drive, via the Cliff Prentiss Bridge and from Prospect Street. Across Jacobs Lane, there is a trail link to the South Shore Natural Science Center, a nonprofit environmental and education facility with exhibits and trails.



Fishing can be enjoyed from the Jacobs Lane dock, the Cliff Prentiss Bridge, the island and Main Street. Canoes, kayaks and other small

boats can be launched from the landings at the dock and bridge. No motors (gas or electric) are allowed. This rule is essential because motor propellers are the major force in spreading nuisance aquatic weeds that interfere with boating and fishing.



Winter activities include cross-country skiing, ice-skating, ice boating and ice fishing. Ice activities should be done when continued cold weather provides a safe thickness of ice.

Vegetation Habitats

The Jacobs Pond conservation area includes many habitat types. In addition to the pond there is a Cedar Swamp. Upland areas include forests of Beech, Hemlock, Maple, Oak and Pine with a few clusters of Mountain Laurel.

Aquatic Wildlife

The pond supports a healthy variety of forage and sports fish. Species include chain pickerel, yellow perch, calico bass, and largemouth bass. Amphibians, including bullfrogs, green frogs, pickerel frogs, and toads, turtles, and other wildlife species are found in the pond, shallow

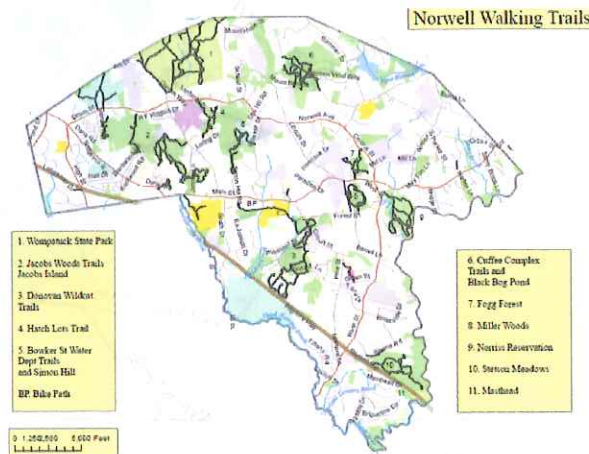
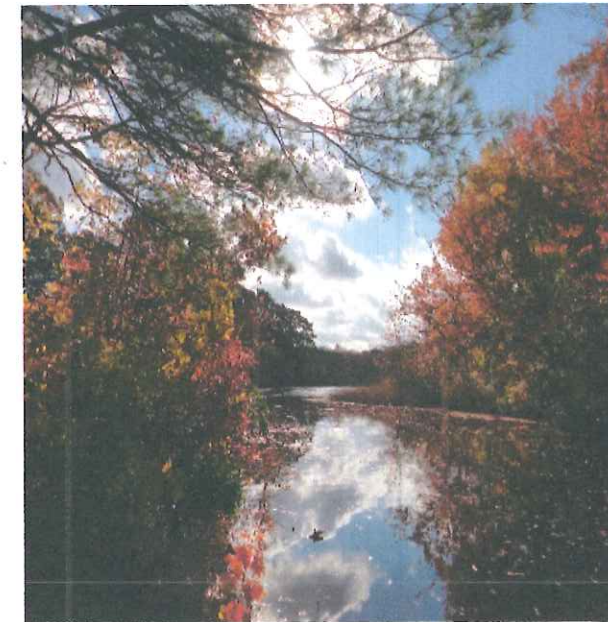
marsh, scrub-scrub swamp, bog, and riparian habitat of the pond.

Geology

The sands and gravel soils around Jacobs Pond result from the deposits left by the glaciers. The linear ridge on the northern shore, leading to the Cliff Prentiss Bridge, is an esker formed from the deposits of a stream flowing through glacial ice.

History

Jacobs Pond was created in 1730 when the Third Herring Brook was dammed at Main Street, Route 123. Originally the pond was called Snapper Pond, a colloquial abbreviation for the local Indian name Assinippi, which meant rocky water. The head waters for Third Herring Brook are located in the southern portion of Valley Swamp. The brook exits the south end of the pond at the dam. Jacobs Pond and Third Herring Brook are part of the North River Watershed. Energy from the flume at the dam was used to run grist and sawmills. The gristmill was abandoned and the sawmill burned in 1920. There was a brick manufacturing facility on the Assinippi Parcel from 1680 to 1830.



The Norwell Conservation Commission
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